



# MCDOT NEWS

News from the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Services

## Falls Chapel Way to be Resurfaced

**Preparation Work Has Begun, Resurfacing to Begin the Week of August 8, 2011**

### INTRODUCTION

This newsletter is to inform you of the upcoming roadway resurfacing of Falls Chapel Way, and to describe the process. This system preservation project employs long term strategies to preserve and enhance the physical and operating conditions of the roadway system as it exists and will make the system serviceable for many years.

### BACKGROUND

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) Division of Highway Services (DHS) maintains over 5,085 lane miles of streets and highways using various methods of routine maintenance, pavement restoration, and repaving depending on the level of pavement deterioration present. Most notably, crack seals, asphalt patching, micro resurfacing, and hot mix asphalt overlays are chief among pavement restoration options. In 2008, MCDOT initiated a new Pavement Management System which included an inspection and complete inventory of all County roads, identifying and rating the condition of each.

MCDOT is now developing County-wide maintenance schedules based on both this objective rating system and budgetary parameters.

Initially, MCDOT will address surface distresses (i.e. cracks, spalls) using crack seals and patching as appropriate preparations for either micro surfacing or repaving with hot mix asphalt.

### SCOPE OF PROJECT

You may have already noticed pavement patching work along this roadway. MCDOT has inspected, rated, and evaluated Falls Chapel Way and its current condition warrants pavement preservation by double-shot micro surfacing (two surface

courses). This treatment is designed to preserve the structural integrity of the pavement while enhancing its aesthetic value as well.

Additionally, micro surfacing fills cracks and small voids and extends the life and serviceability of the pavement.

*Please refer to the map on the reverse side of this newsletter to view the proposed resurfacing area.*

It should be noted that streets designated to receive micro surfacing will be inspected and evaluated on a biannual basis and maintenance will be performed when warranted by pavement distress levels.

### PROJECT WORK PLAN

Generally, the work will proceed as follows:

**1. Conduct survey** - MCDOT has identified areas of roadway in need of repair. These areas are marked with white spray paint. This activity was completed earlier this year.



Typical patching paint markings

**2. Full Depth Patching** - The MCDOT pavement evaluation has determined that, prior to resurfacing, full depth asphalt patching of the pavement or other repairs may be necessary at selected locations. Full depth patching restores the pavement's structural integrity and capac-



Typical asphalt excavation operation

ity to support vehicle loads. This work activity usually takes around 1 to 2 weeks to complete.

**3. Utility Adjustments** - In most cases when micro surfacing, sewer and storm drain manholes, water valves and gas valves, and other underground utility access covers do not require adjustment to the finished grade of the material. However, any low utility covers may be raised to the existing level of the road surface.

**4. Crack Sealing** - An additional step may be necessary to seal large cracks that may not require full depth patching. A flexible filler material is injected into the cracks and sealed with a special tool. This work activity may have been completed earlier this year.

**5. Replace lane markings** - Lane markings will be restored where they existed prior to resurfacing shortly after the micro surfacing application.

### MICRO SURFACING

The final step in the resurfacing process is the application of the micro surfacing material. Generally, this step will follow the patching by several weeks. The micro overlay will cover the entire road surface. Falls Chapel Way will receive two layers of micro surfacing overlay. This will provide for a uniform appearance and surface texture. Again, micro surfacing will follow the patching by several weeks. A final sweeping, if needed, will remove any loose grit left behind from the micro surfacing application.



Micro surfacing application

Although some cracks may reappear after about a year, the underlying crack seals prevent water from penetrating through the roadway.

### SCHEDULE

Most of the preparation work has been completed. Resurfacing will occur on or about August 8, 2011, and will take approximately 1-2 weeks to complete. Weather and operational requirements may affect the schedule.

All work will be scheduled between the hours of 7 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

### IMPACTS

Continuous traffic will be maintained at all times, although alternating one-way traffic patterns may be used periodically. Minor traffic delays may be experienced as flaggers manually direct traffic safely through the construction zone. This project will necessitate temporary lane closures. Access to homes will be available at all times, however minor delays may be experienced as workers restrict traffic from the freshly applied material. Traffic may be restricted from driving on the freshly applied micro surface until it is fully cured, usually for 3-4 hours. Driving on the freshly applied micro surface will damage the material and may soil your vehicle. Orange traffic cones will be placed in the restricted lane.

Street repair, preparation and resurfacing work is generally characterized by some noise and dust. However, MCDOT will do its best to keep the site in good housekeeping order.

*Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we work to improve Falls Chapel Way for residents and users.*



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF HIGHWAY SERVICES

100 EDISON PARK DRIVE, 4TH FLOOR, GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878

(240) 777-6000

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/MCDOT](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/MCDOT)

***KEEPING MONTGOMERY MOVING***

MCDOT NEWS No. 2011.39

# NOTICE OF FALLS CHAPEL WAY RESURFACING PROJECT

## SAFETY NOTICE

Please remember that while repair work is proceeding, construction vehicles will be moving around. Some materials may be stored in the area. Please use caution when walking or driving through the construction zone. Children may be attracted to the noise and machinery, so please keep them under supervision at all times, even after the work is completed for the day. Also, please follow the direction of flaggers and temporary signs and traffic control devices. We appreciate your patience and cooperation while we make these much needed improvements to the infrastructure.

## CONTACTS

The resurfacing and repair work is managed by DHS personnel. Should you wish to contact us concerning the resurfacing and repair work in your community, please contact:

**Project Manager:** Martin P. Wurdeman 240-777-7649

**Program Manager:** Donald Noble 240-777-7601

Should your questions be of a more general nature, please contact Customer Service at 240-777-6000.

**DHS Email:** [mcdot.highway@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:mcdot.highway@montgomerycountymd.gov)

**DHS Website:**

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hwytmpl.asp?url=/content/dot/highway/index.asp>

On the map, click on the **Bethesda Service Area**, where information is available describing the resurfacing process.

## Project Map

